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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Mutsumi KIMURA

Group Art Unit: 2826

Application No.: 10/615,014

Examiner: A. Sefer

Filed: July 9, 2003

Docket No.: 116029

For: THIN-FILM TRANSISTOR, SWITCHING CIRCUIT, ACTIVE ELEMENT SUBSTRATE, ELECTRO-OPTICAL DEVICE, ELECTRONIC APPARATUS, THERMAL HEAD, DROPLET EJECTING HEAD, PRINTER, AND THIN-FILM-TRANSISTOR DRIVING AND LIGHT-EMITTING DISPLAY DEVICE

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the June 3, 2004 Election of Species Requirement, Applicant provisionally elects the Species described in the second embodiment, Figs. 4-5, with traverse. Claims 1-2, 4-6, 8-11 and 17 are readable on the elected species.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all species is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid

unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Election of Species Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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JAO:JLC/aaw

Date: July 2, 2004

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